

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 STATE 054826

15

ORIGIN EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-11 COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 FTC-01

AGR-20 SWF-02 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 AID-20

OPIC-12 /093 R

DRAFTED BY EA/TB:JAKLEMSTINE:MAC

APPROVED BY EA/TB:JBDEXTER

----- 019049

R 192156Z MAR 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 054826

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, ENRG

SUBJECT: JOINT VENTURE FERTILIZER PLANT

REF: A. BANGKOK 4328 B. STATE 33587

1. BEKER INDUSTRIES HAS CONFIRMED PROPOSED LONG TERM SUPPLY CONTRACT TO THAILAND WOULD BE FROM PRESENT EXPANSION, PRIMARILY AT CONDA IDAHO PLANT, RATHER THAN ANY POSSIBLE ACQUISITIONS. BEKER HAS UNDERTAKEN EXPANSION PROGRAM AT CONDA PLANT TO INCREASE ANNUAL PRODUCTION PHOSPHATE FERTILIZER BY OVER 300,000 TONS (PRESENT CAPACITY AROUND 350,000 TONS). IN ADDITION CONDA PLANT WILL PRODUCE AMMONIA PRODUCTS BY SUMMER 1974.

2. BARTH NOTED NO RESPONSE RECEIVED FROM THAI GOVERNMENT OR EMBASSY ON HIS PROPOSAL. WE DO NOT UNDERSTAND THIS DILATORINESS WHICH APPEARS SOMEWHAT INCONSISTENT WITH CONTINUED HIGH LEVEL THAI REPRESENTATIONS FOR FERTILIZER.

3. FOLLOWING INFORMATION OBTAINED FROM PRESS SOURCES AND INVESTMENT SERVICES MAY BE OF INTEREST IN EVALUATING  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 054826

BEKER'S OFFER.

4. BEKER INDUSTRIES WAS INCORPORATED IN 1971 ON PURCHASE OF NATIONAL PHOSPHATE CORPORATION. PRINCIPLE SHAREHOLDERS ARE E BEKER, PRESIDENT (35 PERCENT); ENGELHARD MINERALS (14

PERCENT); AND TEXAS GULF (11 PERCENT). COMPANY HAS THREE PLANTS IN US AND LEASES PHOSPHATE MINING PROPERTIES IN IDAHO. EXPORT SALES IN 1973 WERE OVER 70 PERCENT OF TOTAL ESTIMATED AT MORE THAN \$60 MILLION.

5. PRESENT EFFORT OF BEKER TO OBTAIN CONTROL OF COMMERCIAL SOLVENTS IS ATTEMPT BY FIRM TO MOVE INTO NITROGEN BASED FERTILIZER AND BROADEN PRODUCT LINE. INTERNATIONAL CHEMICALS AND MINERALS ALSO SEEKING TAKEOVER OF COMMERCIAL SOLVENTS. COMMERCIAL SOLVENTS IS PRIMARILY A PRODUCER OF INDUSTRIAL CHEMICALS BUT HAS SIGNIFICANT POSITION IN NITROGEN BASED AND AMMONIUM NITRATE FERTILIZER. BEKER, ON THE OTHER HAND, IS PRINCIPALLY A PHOSPHATE BASED PRODUCER. KISSINGER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FERTILIZERS, INDUSTRIAL PLANTS, JOINT VENTURES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 19 MAR 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** MorefiRH  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974STATE054826  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** JAKLEMSTINE:MAC  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740058-0576  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19740331/aaaabdh1.tel  
**Line Count:** 80  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ORIGIN EA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** A. BANGKOK 4328 B. STATE 33587  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** MorefiRH  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 12 AUG 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <12-Aug-2002 by cunninfx>; APPROVED <14-Aug-2002 by MorefiRH>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** JOINT VENTURE FERTILIZER PLANT  
**TAGS:** EGEN, ENRG  
**To:** BANGKOK  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005